

**SPECIAL SESSION
JOINT RENO CITY COUNCIL AND
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD
BRIEF OF MINUTES
May 15, 2012**

The Reno City Council and Redevelopment Agency Board held a joint special budget hearing at 3:12 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 in the Council Chambers in City Hall.

PRESENT: Councilpersons/Board Members Gustin, Zadra, Sferrazza, Dortch, Aiazzi and Hascheff and Mayor/Chairman Cashell.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager/Executive Director Clinger, City Attorney Kadlic, Chief Deputy City Attorney Chase and City Clerk/Secretary Jones.

A.3 PUBLIC COMMENT

Teela Hammond, 5410 Britannia Drive, Chair of the Financial Advisory Board, said that the Board supported the realignment of expenses in this year's budget, and expressed concerns about the proposals to increase property taxes and move the golf expenses into the General Fund.

Sam Dehne, Reno resident, presented his views on several issues.

A.4 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – May 15, 2012.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Zadra, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff to approve the agenda.

Motion carried.

A.5 Presentation by the Nevada League of Cities – J. David Fraser Executive Director, Nevada League of Cities & Municipalities.

Debra March, City of Henderson Mayor pro tem and First Vice President of the Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities, discussed the mission and goals of the organization.

**AGENDA
ITEM
NO.**

B.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- B.1 Staff Report: Public Hearing regarding proposed assessments and approval of the levy of assessments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013 for the Downtown Maintenance Special Assessment District (SAD) and the Downtown Police Special Assessment District.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council accept the report, approve the rates and levy the assessments.

The Mayor/Chairman asked if proper notice was given.

City Clerk/Secretary Jones stated that proper notice was given and two letters in opposition to the assessments were received from 1) Eric Reamer, 50 North Sierra Street #907 and 2) Valerie Chappel, 50 North Sierra Street #610.

Mayor/Chairman Cashell opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak.

Sandra Bovee, 50 North Sierra Street #1105, discussed her concerns about area safety and graffiti in Douglas Alley.

Jim Gallaway, 50 North Sierra Street #1101, discussed his opposition to the proposed increase in assessments.

Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi stated that only a majority vote of the residents can eliminate or alter the assessment districts.

Linda Shane, 50 North Sierra Street, discussed her opposition to the proposed assessments.

Sam Dehne, Reno resident, presented his views on this issue.

Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff disclosed that Linda Shane is a client of his law firm and recused himself from voting on this item.

COUNCILPERSON/BOARD MEMBER HASCHEFF ABSENT AT 3:35 P.M.

Steve Hardesty, Assessment District Coordinator, presented an overview of the Staff Report.

**AGENDA
ITEM
NO.**

B.1 Public Hearing ... Downtown Maintenance Special Assessment District and the Downtown Police Special Assessment District – continued

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of changing the assessments based on something other than assessed valuations (hotel room nights, frontage, flat fee, amenities, etc.); the Belvedere's role in increasing the assessments; expanding the districts; and comparing Reno's Maintenance District with that in Denver, Colorado and/or other cities.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Dortch to uphold the staff recommendation.

Councilperson/Board Member Gustin and Mr. Hardesty discussed the prospects for next year's assessments.

Councilperson/Board Member Zadra reiterated that the authority to change the assessments rests with the residents.

Motion carried with Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff absent and abstaining.

COUNCILPERSON/BOARD MEMBER HASCHEFF PRESENT AT 4:00 P.M.

B.2 Staff Report: Public Hearing regarding the City of Reno's Tentative Budget for FY2012-2013, Approval of Resolution Adopting Budget for the City of Reno for FY2012-2013, and Adopting the Fee Schedule for the City of Reno, Nevada for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council hold the public hearing as required by State law and adopt a resolution adopting the 2012-2013 Budget for the City of Reno, Nevada.

The Mayor/Chairman asked if proper notice was given.

City Clerk/Secretary Jones stated that proper notice was given and no correspondence was received.

Mayor/Chairman Cashell opened the public hearing.

AGENDA
ITEM
NO.

B.2 Public Hearing ... Fee Schedule for the City of Reno, Nevada for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year – continued

Kate Thomas, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, presented an overview of the Staff Report, including budget modifications the Council requested at the May 3, 2012 public workshop (increase property taxes to fund 12 additional police officers, \$116,000 for Community Assistance Center Triage Center funding, \$27,000 for membership in the Nevada League of Cities, \$30,000 for the Midtown parking strategy, art festival funding; and \$10,000 in City Manager discretionary funds).

Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi and Alex Woodley, Code Enforcement Manager, discussed the requested change in the fee structure for bars and alcohol licenses, as well as non-profit business licenses, and Mr. Woodley said that the proposals would be brought to the Council in June 2012.

Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi and Julee Conway, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, discussed the possibility of reducing the fees for renting the West Street Plaza and Virginia Street Plaza.

Councilpersons/Board Members Aiazzi and Sferrazza requested an additional \$121,000 for demolition of the Moana site for the Miracle on Turf project.

Mayor/Chairman Cashell and City Manager/Executive Director Clinger discussed building the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase into the fee schedule.

Robert Chisel, Finance Director, recommended eliminating the increase on the CPI for the fee schedule.

Councilperson/Board Member Sferrazza and Steve Pitts, Police Chief, discussed current and past staffing levels in the Reno Police Department.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff to adopt the Budget with the modifications proposed by staff and 1) provide \$121,000 for the Miracle on Turf demolition project; 2) decrease by half the rental fees for the West Street Market, City Plaza, Wingfield Park, and West Street Plaza; and 3) remove the 1.7% Consumer Price Index adjustment.

The Mayor/Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak.

Jess Traver, 2185 Sacred Garden Court, representing the Builders Association of Northern Nevada, discussed his support for the organizational changes made by the City of Reno.

AGENDA
ITEM
NO.

B.2 Public Hearing ... Fee Schedule for the City of Reno, Nevada for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year – continued

Tray Abney, 449 South Virginia Street, representing the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Council for eliminating the CPI fee increase.

Sam Dehne, Reno resident, presented a Public Comment Form, but did not speak.

Mayor/Chairman Cashell closed the public comment portion of the hearing.

Councilperson/Board Member Dortch stated that he would not support the motion because for the first time each Councilperson would be allocated \$150,000 in discretionary funds while at the same time property taxes were being raised to hire 12 additional police officers. He said that authorized expenditures for the Miracle on Turf project were now up to \$511,000 which, he said, would pay the cost of five police officers, and cleaning up the Moana site should be done only when the City can afford to do so. He also said that the Moana facilities were closed because the City could not afford to maintain them, it would be irresponsible to build additional facilities while existing facilities are not being properly maintained, and the Council should reign in on their spending.

Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi noted that \$511,000 would only pay five police officers for one year, and the Moana project is a one-time only expense.

Councilperson/Board Member Sferrazza said that the budget also includes money to pay for the fire station relocation loan that was supposed to be funded by Redevelopment and \$150,000 for outside counsel to handle Redevelopment lawsuits, and the Events Center is draining the General Fund for millions of dollars every year. She stated that it is not irresponsible to choose to fund recreational facilities that benefit the entire community.

Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff said that while he understood the concerns, money had been allocated to worthwhile causes such as senior and youth services and the Access Advisory Board. He said that he viewed the Moana project as a public/private partnership, and noted that the Council had traditionally looked at property taxes as a means for funding public safety.

Councilperson/Board Member Zadra said that the Council should remain committed to the priorities they established, which include senior and youth services and economic development. Ms. Zadra stated that the Council owes it to the community to maintain and improve the services they provide to their citizens.

Motion carried with Councilperson/Board Member Dortch voting nay.

**AGENDA
ITEM
NO.**

- B.2.1 RESOLUTION NO.** Resolution adopting the FY2012-2013 Budget and Adopting the Fee Schedule for the City of Reno, Nevada for the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Gustin to adopt Resolution No. 7702.

Motion carried with Councilperson/Board Member Dortch voting nay.

- B.3** Staff Report: Public Hearing regarding the Redevelopment Agency #1 (RDA1) and Redevelopment Agency #2 (RDA2) Tentative Budgets, and Approval of Resolutions adopting the Budgets for the Redevelopment Agency #1 and Redevelopment Agency #2 of the City of Reno for 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council hold the public hearing as required by State law and adopt the resolution.

The Mayor/Chairman asked if proper notice was given.

City Clerk/Secretary Jones stated that proper notice was given and no correspondence was received.

Mayor/Chairman Cashell opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak. No one spoke and the Mayor/Chairman closed the public comment portion of the hearing.

Kate Thomas, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, presented an overview of the Staff Report.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Gustin to uphold the staff recommendation.

Motion carried with Councilperson/Board Member Dortch voting nay.

- B.3.1 RESOLUTION NO.** Resolution adopting the FY2012-2013 Budgets for the Redevelopment Agency #1 and Redevelopment Agency #2 of the City of Reno, Nevada.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff to adopt Redevelopment Resolution No. 208.

Motion carried with Councilperson/Board Member Dortch voting nay.

**AGENDA
ITEM
NO.**

- C.0 Proclamation declaring May 15, 2012 as Gayela Emory Day for 34 years of dedicated service to the City of Reno including 16 years of successful Budget Adoptions – Kate Thomas, Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Kate Thomas, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, on behalf of Mayor Robert A. Cashell, Sr. and the City of Reno, proclaimed May 15, 2012 as Gayela Emory Day.

COUNCILPERSON/BOARD MEMBER ZADRA ABSENT AT 4:30 P.M.

D.0 ORDINANCES, INTRODUCTION

- D.1 Staff Report: Bill No. Ordinance to amend the Reno Municipal Code, Title 5, Chapter 5.18, entitled “Right-of-Way Toll,” by amending Section 5.18.010 by increasing the toll from three percent to five percent; together with other matters properly relating thereto.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council refer the Bill to the Committee of the Whole.

It was moved by Councilperson/Board Member Aiazzi, seconded by Councilperson/Board Member Hascheff to refer Bill No. 6795 to the Committee of the Whole.

Motion carried with Councilperson/Board Member Zadra absent and Councilperson/Board Member Dortch voting nay.

E.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ITEM.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:32 P.M.